

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on the draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the fill of non-tidal wetlands in Yorktown, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board.

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Department of the Navy, Commander Navy Mid-Atlantic Region, c/o Mr. Mike Jones, NAVFAC MIDLANT (Environmental), 9324 Virginia Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23511-3095; VWPP No. 15-0232.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Department of the Navy has applied for a VWP individual permit to construct a small arms range, consisting of rifle and pistol ranges, their associated supporting infrastructure, and access roads at Naval Weapon Station Yorktown. The proposed project will result in permanent impacts to 1.458 acres of non-tidal forested wetlands, 0.076 acres of non-tidal emergent wetlands, and 1,416 linear feet of stream, and permanent conversion of 0.831 acres of non-tidal forested wetlands to herbaceous wetlands. The activity proposed in the permit will affect tributaries to Skiffes Creek and King Creek in the James River and York River watersheds. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the wetland impacts, the applicant will purchase 3.824 wetland credits from approved wetland mitigation banks servicing HUCs 02080107 and 02080206. To compensate for stream impacts, the applicant will purchase 1,859 linear feet of stream credits from an approved stream mitigation bank servicing HUC 02080107. DEQ's preliminary decision is to approve the permit.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. DEQ may hold a public hearing, including another comment period, if public response is significant and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Name: Jeffrey Hannah, Project Manager; Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Boulevard, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23462; Phone: 757-518-2146; E-mail: jeffrey.hannah@deq.virginia.gov. FAX: 757-518-2009. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment.